

**GOD'S "HOW-TO" MANUAL**  
**# 2 - How to Handle Temptation**  
**James 1:13-18**

Dr. Danny Davis/ Mount Hermon Baptist Church/ June 28, 2009

*There's a distinction between "testing" and "temptation":*

- "Testing" comes from external pressure (i.e., our circumstances). ["trials"]
- "Temptation" generally flows from internal pressure (i.e., our desires).
- God "tests" us in order to mature us.
- Satan "tempts" us in order to destroy us.

*How can we handle temptation when it comes our way?*

**1. Consider the Destructive Nature of Sin. 1:13-16**

*The anatomy of sin (4 components or stages):*

- Desire (our emotions)
- Deception (our intellect)
- Disobedience (our will)
- Death (the outcome)

**2. Consider the Goodness of God. 1:16-17**

**3. Draw upon the Resources God has given you. 1:18**

- "The Word of Truth" (The Bible)
  - Gives us wisdom and direction
  - Gives us strength and encouragement
- The Gift of God's Indwelling Presence (The Holy Spirit)
  - Your inner strength and your internal moral compass
  - Christ in you